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Applicants : BORNHEIM, et al.

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April 4, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
Box Missing Parts

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Eileen Sheffield	<i>Eileen Sheffield</i>	4/4/02
Signature		Date

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

In advance of prosecution, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-7 without prejudice and add the following new claims:

8. An electronic releasing device for pyrotechnic igniters having a primary and a secondary charge, wherein the primary charge is ignited by means of a circuit that comprises electronic components and whose essential electronic components are accommodated as an integrated circuit in an IC housing, with the housing being disposed on a printed circuit board, wherein the terminals of the IC housing are provided as connecting points for test instruments for checking the serviceability of the integrated circuit and the igniter function and also serve for connection to external electronic devices for programming the releasing device.